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DIRECTORATE OF  
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

# Scientific and Technical Intelligence Report

*Foreign Ballistic Missile and Space Developments in 1968*

APPROVED FOR  
RELEASE ☐ DATE:  
28-Oct-2009

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CIA EMSAC-STIR/SC/69-2

March 1969

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Scientific and Technical Intelligence Report

**FOREIGN BALLISTIC MISSILE AND SPACE DEVELOPMENTS  
IN 1968**

*Project Officers*  
[redacted]

**FMSAC-STIR/SC/69-2  
March 1969**

**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**  
Directorate of Science and Technology  
Foreign Missile and Space Analysis Center

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### PREFACE

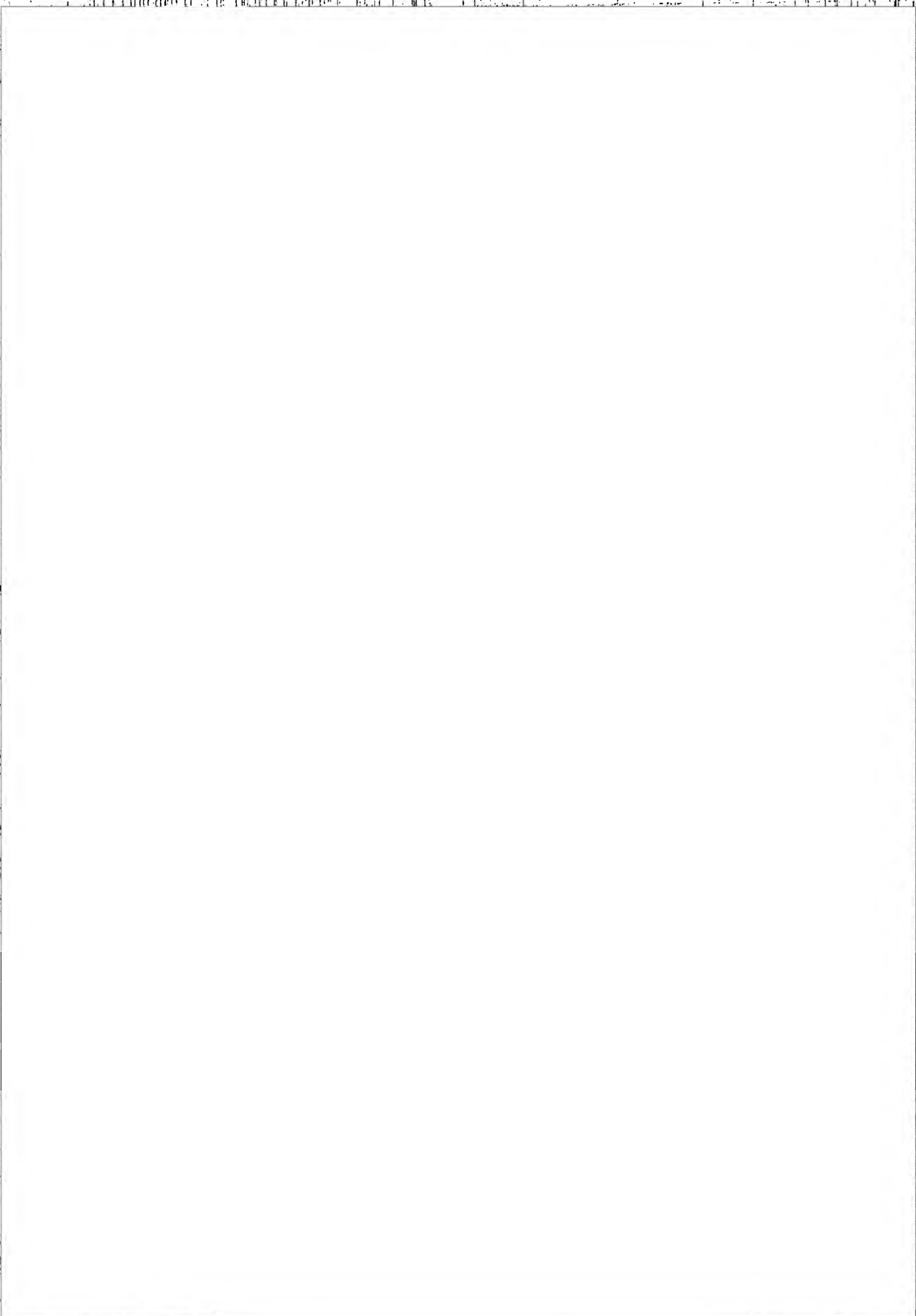
More than 500 guided missile or rocket launchings occurred on foreign test ranges in 1968. In the USSR, these launchings were mainly either ballistic surface-to-surface guided missiles or space-related vehicles; the nonCommunist launchings were primarily of scientific sounding rockets.

This report presents intelligence derived from 1968 launch-related activities, and consists of an analysis of these activities with respect to the major missile and space systems. A detailed appendix provides launch statistics for each test range, launch-related facts and activities and data on launches in categories other than those of ballistic missiles or space vehicles.

This report has been produced by CIA. It was prepared by the Foreign Missile and Space Analysis Center and coordinated with the Office of Scientific Intelligence. The cutoff date for information is 31 December 1968.

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**France**

France's space launch facilities at Hammaguir in Algeria were dismantled in 1967, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] New French space launch facilities in France Guiana are under construction and will not be capable of supporting an orbital launch until late in 1969. [REDACTED]

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FRANCE

Landes Missile Test Range

[redacted]  
[redacted] In addition, the French press reported a single launch of the Pluton tactical SRBM, probably the first launch of this system.

[redacted] A successful flight test of an IRBM was usually confirmed by an announcement in the French press; a failure was indicated by an absence of such an announcement.

A propulsion flight test, probably the first firing of the Pluton surface-to-surface tactical ballistic missile system, occurred early in 1968, according to the French press.

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